

DAVID R. CRAIG
HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

LORRAINE T. COSTELLO
DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION



DATE: January 15, 2009
CONTACT: Robert B. Thomas, Jr., 410-638-3258

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA'S WHISTLE STOP TRAIN TOUR

(Bel Air, MD- January 15, 2009) - - President Elect Barack Obama accompanied by Vice President Elect Joe Biden and their families will travel through Harford County Saturday on their way to Washington, D. C. for their Inauguration on Tuesday. The train, which originates in

Philadelphia, will travel through Harford County Saturday afternoon.

There are three primary safe areas for viewing the train as it passes through the county. Those areas are to the rear of Havre de Grace Middle School off of Lewis Lane in Havre de Grace; at the Aberdeen Train Station off Route 40 in downtown Aberdeen and the MARC train station in Edgewood. At this time there are no plans for the train to stop in Harford County on its way to Baltimore.

"This is without a doubt a very special and historic event," remarked County Executive David R. Craig. "However, safety is our paramount concern. We certainly understand the enthusiasm that this event will generate, but people need to be careful, especially in maintaining a safe distance from the train and train tracks," the county executive stated.

With respect to suggested guidelines for viewing the passing train, citizens are reminded not to encroach upon the train tracks, as they may be electrocuted or struck by passing trains. Furthermore, no one will be permitted access to the train at either the Aberdeen or Edgewood train station.

Additionally, due to concerns regarding traffic and congestion near the MARC train station in Edgewood, the station will be closed to vehicular traffic on Saturday. Those wishing to view the train as it passes through the MARC train station should plan on parking at Edgewood High School off Willoughby Beach Road where they will be bussed to the site.

"I am sure all of Harford County wishes the president and vice-president elect all the best for a safe and enjoyable trip through our beautiful county on this historic journey in history," County Executive Craig remarked.